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TO: GACarver, Jr.
FROM: DCI/SAVA

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1. GENERAL MAXWELL TAYLOR, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN, PFIAB, HAS REQUESTED DETAILED BRIEFING ON "ALL AVAILABLE EVIDENCE AND CURRENT CONCLUSIONS AS TO PROGRESS OR LACK OF PROGRESS ON ELIMINATING THE VIET CONG INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH THE PHOENIX PROGRAM." REQUEST STATION PREPARE ANALYSIS OF PHOENIX PROGRESS TO DATE, ~~AND~~ INCORPORATING ANY RELIABLE DATA AVAILABLE AND GIVING YOUR BEST ESTIMATE BOTH OF CURRENT SITUATION AND REASONABLE PROSPECTS FOR NEAR AND MEDIUM TERM FUTURE.

2. IT IS QUITE IMPORTANT THAT THIS BRIEFING, AND OTHER WASHINGTON BRIEFINGS IN THE NEAR FUTURE ON THE PHOENIX PROGRAM, STRIKE EXACTLY THE RIGHT NOTE, NEITHER UNDERPLAYING THE IMPORTANCE OF PHOENIX NOR OVERSELLING ITS ACTUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE. PROBLEMS AND SHORTFALLS, WHERE THEY EXIST, SHOULD BE FRANKLY STATED AND PROGRESS, WHERE IT HAS IN FACT BEEN RECORDED, SHOULD BE

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PAGE TWO

CITE DIRECTOR

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OUTLINED WITH EQUAL CANDOR.

3. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF YOUR COMMENTS COULD INCLUDE CONCRETE EXAMPLES AS WELL AS GENERALIZED STATISTICS. FOR INSTANCE, THE VC ORGANIZATION IN THUA THIEN PROVINCE AND IN AT LEAST SOME PORTIONS OF THE UPPER DELTA SEEMS TO HAVE FALLEN UPON VERY EVIL DAYS. IF THIS IS ACCURATE, ~~THE~~ ILLUSTRATIVE DETAILS WOULD BE USEFUL.

4. REALIZE TIME IS SHORT, BUT WE NEED ~~TO ANSWER YOUR~~ YOUR ANSWER BY OOB WASHING TON TIME, FRIDAY, 6 DECEMBER.

END OF MESSAGE

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William E. Nelson, C/FE
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George A. Carver, Jr.
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